

JUN 16 2008
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TO:

Examiner Tyler

FROM:

Michael Binns

RE:

Application 10/763,165

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CENTRAL FAX CENTER****JUN 16 2008**Application No. 10/763,165
Atty. Docket No. : 03560.003429
Examiner Tyler**PROPOSED AGENDA FOR INTERVIEW**

As you requested, here is our proposed agenda for the telephone interview scheduled for June 17, 2008 at 9:30 AM.

We would like to discuss U.S. Patent No. 6,236,770 to Hsieh et al. and U.S. Patent No. 5,341,225 to Stein et al. as applied against independent claims 8, 24, 41, and 49.

Applicant's invention provides an image scanning apparatus that is capable of successively scanning a plurality of documents arranged on a document plate by moving a sensor unit over the documents in a sub-scanning direction. The image scanning apparatus also includes a controller that moves the image sensing unit in the direction opposite to the sub-scanning direction when a larger distance is needed between the one and next document images to accelerate the image sensing unit to a scanning speed.


In the final Office Action dated February 22, 2008, the Examiner cites Hsieh et al. for teaching a method of scanning a plurality of designated areas over a platform of an image scanning system in a single pass. As noted by the Examiner, however, Hsieh et al. does not teach the controller of Applicant's invention. Therefore, in order to compensate for this deficiency in the Hsieh et al. '770 patent, the Examiner relies on the teachings of Stein et al.

Applicant submits, however, that Stein et al. does not cure the deficiencies of the Hsieh et al. patent. The Stein et al. patent is directed to the scanning of a single document. However, the image sensing unit of Applicant's invention relates to at least one document image arranged on a document plate while moving relative to the at least one document image. Due to the lack of a next document, the Stein et al. patent cannot teach the controller of Applicant's invention, which moves the image sensing unit in the direction opposite to the sub-scanning direction when a larger distance is needed between the one and next document images to accelerate the image sensing unit to a scanning speed. Accordingly, Applicant submits that independent claims 8, 24, 41, and 49, are allowable over the cited art.

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Micheal Binns and I look forward to discussing these issues with you. In the meantime, please contact me via telephone at (202) 530-1010, via email at SWarner@FCHS.com, or via facsimile at (202) 530-1055.

Respectfully submitted,


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